

HB 1293 -- YOUTH SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION EDUCATION

SPONSOR: Lauer

This bill allows, beginning in the 2016-17 school year, any licensed educator to annually complete up to two hours of training or professional development in youth suicide awareness and prevention as part of the professional development hours required for State Board of Education (SBE) certification.

The bill requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop guidelines suitable for training or professional development in youth suicide awareness and prevention and to develop materials that may be used for the training or professional development.

By July 1, 2017, each district must adopt a policy for youth suicide awareness and prevention, including the training and education of district employees.

Each district's policy must address, but are not limited to, strategies that can help identify students who are at possible risk of suicide; strategies and protocols for helping students at possible risk of suicide; and protocols for responding to a suicide death.

By July 1, 2016, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education must develop a model policy that districts may adopt. When developing the model policy, the department must cooperate, consult with, and seek input from organizations that have expertise in youth suicide awareness and prevention. By July 1, 2020, and at least every three years thereafter, the department must request information and seek feedback from districts on their experience with the policy for youth suicide awareness and prevention. The department must review this information and may use it to change the department's model policy. The department must post any information on its website that it has received from districts that it deems relevant. The department must not post any confidential information or any information that personally identifies any student or school employee.